CLAIMS:

We claim:

1.   A method comprising:

generating an asset record in a management system database when an order for

3   components of an asset corresponding to said asset record are ordered; and

4   tagging said asset when deployable with an asset identification (ID), said asset ID

5   uniquely referring to said asset record.

1   2.   A method according to claim 1 further comprising:

2   generating a purchase order for said components, said purchase order having

3   characteristics of said asset that could be associated with said asset record in said

4   database.

1   3.   A method according to claim 2 wherein generating includes:

determining if an existing asset template can be used in generating said purchase

3   order;

4   if an existing asset template cannot be used, then creating a new asset template for

5   said asset; and

6   utilizing one of said existing asset template and new asset template in said

7   generating said purchase order.

1   4.   A method according to claim 2 further comprising:

2   transmitting said purchase order to a supplier;

3   waiting for ordered components to be received; and

4   if any ordered components are received, then reading information related to said

5   received components from the packages containing said received components.

1   5.   A method according to claim 4 further comprising:

2   storing said information into said management database.

1   6.   A method according to claim 4 further comprising:

2   determining if said received components are sufficient for an asset to be classified

3   as deployable.

1   7.   A method according to claim 6 wherein determining includes:

2   if said asset requires assembly, determining whether all components for assembly

3   of an asset have been received; and

4   if said asset requires assembly, and if all components have not been received, then

5   placing said received components in storage.

1   8.   A method according to claim 7 wherein if said asset requires assembly,

2   and if all components have been received, then assembling said received components

3   such that it constitutes a deployable asset.

1   9.   A method according to claim 1 wherein tagging includes:

2   generating said asset ID as a unique identification within a designated area

3   containing many different assets.

1   10.   A method according to claim 1 wherein said tagging further includes

2   generating a sticker incorporating said asset ID therein; and

3   affixing said sticker to said deployable asset.

1   11.   A method according to claim 10 wherein said sticker is a bar-code

2   readable sticker.

1 12. A method according to claim 1 further comprising:

2 updating the state in said asset management database of said asset to 'deployable'.

1 13. A method according to claim 9 wherein said designated area is in part or in

2 whole a data center.

1 14. A method according to claim 1 wherein configuration information for said

2 asset is stored in its asset record.

1 15. A system comprising:

2 a management system database configured to store an asset record when an order

3 for components of an asset corresponding to said asset record are ordered, said asset

4 record indexed by a unique asset identification (ID), said asset ID uniquely referring to

5 said asset within a facility; and

6 a connection mechanism coupling said management system database to various

7 nodes located in said facility, and coupling said management system database to an

8 inventory database;

1 16. A system according to claim 15 wherein said facility is a data center.

1 17. A system according to claim 15 wherein said connection mechanism

2 includes network connectivity.

1 18. A system according to claim 15 wherein said asset record includes

2 configuration information regarding said asset.

1   19.   A system according to claim 15 wherein said asset record includes

2   purchase order information regarding said components of said asset.

1   20.   A system according to claim 15 wherein said asset record includes state

2   information regarding said asset.

1   21.   A system according to claim 15 wherein said asset is tagged with a sticker

2   containing said asset ID.

1   22.   An article comprising a computer readable medium having instructions

2   stored thereon which when executed cause:

3   generating an asset record in a management system database when an order for

4   components of an asset corresponding to said asset record are ordered; and

5   tagging said asset when deployable with an asset identification (ID), said asset ID

6   uniquely referring to said asset record.

1   23.   An article according to claim 22 which further causes:

2   generating a purchase order for said components, said purchase order having

3   characteristics of said asset that could be associated with said asset record in said

4   database.

1   24.   An article according to claim 23 wherein generating includes:

2   determining if an existing asset template can be used in generating said purchase

3   order;

4   if an existing asset template cannot be used, then creating a new asset template for

5   said asset; and

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6   utilizing one of said existing asset template and new asset template in said

7   generating said purchase order.

1   25.   An article according to claim 22 which further causes:

2   transmitting said purchase order to a supplier;

3   waiting for ordered components to be received; and

4   if any ordered components are received, then reading information related to said

5   received components from the packages containing said received components.

1   26.   An article according to claim 25 which further causes:

2   storing said information into said management database.

       27.   An article according to claim 25 which further causes:

       determining if said received components are sufficient for an asset to be classified

3   as deployable.

1   28.   An article according to claim 27 wherein determining includes:

2   if said asset requires assembly, determining whether all components for assembly

3   of an asset have been received; and

4   if said asset requires assembly, and if all components have not been received, then

5   placing said received components in storage.

1   29.   An article according to claim 28 wherein if said asset requires assembly,

2   and if all components have been received, then assembling said received components

3   such that it constitutes a deployable asset.

1   30.   An article according to claim 22 wherein tagging includes:

2   generating said asset ID as a unique identification within a designated area

3   containing many different assets.

1   31.   · An article according to claim 30 wherein said tagging further includes:

2   generating a sticker incorporating said asset ID therein; and

3   affixing said sticker to said deployable asset.

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